

Purchase of arms and ammunition by Ministry of Defence

***590. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the sophisticated arms, ammunition and other equipments purchased by his Ministry during the last two years from foreign countries of the value of Rs. 5 crores or above;
- (b) whether in most of the deals senior officers of his Ministry went abroad and took hospitality of the sellers/manufacturers; and
- (c) if so, the names of such officers and the expenditure incurred on each of them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH):

- (a) The Ministry of Defence have inducted several sophisticated arms, ammunition and other equipment during the last two years from foreign countries of the value of Rs. 5 crores or above. It is not in national security interest to provide further details.
- (b) The senior officers of the Ministry of Defence who went abroad on account of high level talks relating to the purchases of arms, ammunition and other equipment did not take the hospitality of the sellers/manufacturers.
- (c) The total expenditure incurred on the foreign tours of the officers of Ministry of Defence at the level of Joint Secretary and above was Rs. 25.9 lakhs in 1999-2000 and Rs. 38.5 lakhs in 2000-2001.